

SCHEDULE YOUR VACCINATION IMMEDIATELY - NO WAIT TIME!

This week, the GTCHD finished scheduling link emails to all those waiting in the queue for a vaccine. Moving forward, those interested in getting a vaccine appointment at NMC's Hagerty Center will be able to fill out the survey and immediately schedule an appointment. If the offered dates and times do not work with your schedule, you are encouraged to check back in the future for additional appointments. Additionally, many of the future clinics will welcome walk-ins also. If you are in the area, stop in and get vaccinated.

ANYONE 16 AND OLDER is now available to get a COVID-19 vaccine. Visit:
<https://gtcounty covid19.com/vaccine/> to fill out the scheduling survey and make an appointment.

The Pfizer vaccine has demonstrated 91.3% efficacy 6 months after vaccination day. AND it has demonstrated efficacy against the B.1.351 (first identified in South Africa) variant. MDHHS reports that the B.117 (first identified in Britain) variant also has little to no impact on vaccine acquired immunity.

THE GTCHD HITS THE ROAD WITH SATELLITE CLINICS



While Northwest Michigan College's Hagerty Center continues to serve as the primary vaccination clinic site in Grand Traverse County, our team is working hard to bring the vaccine out into the community.

On Friday, April 16, and Tuesday, April, 22, the GTCHD held our first satellite clinics in Fife Lake and Green Lake Townships. At both locations, 146 COVID-19 vaccines were administered.



The GTCHD has also begun vaccinating at area high schools. This week, we visited, Buckley, Kingsley, and TC West High School, administering 161 total vaccinations.



Upcoming clinics include:

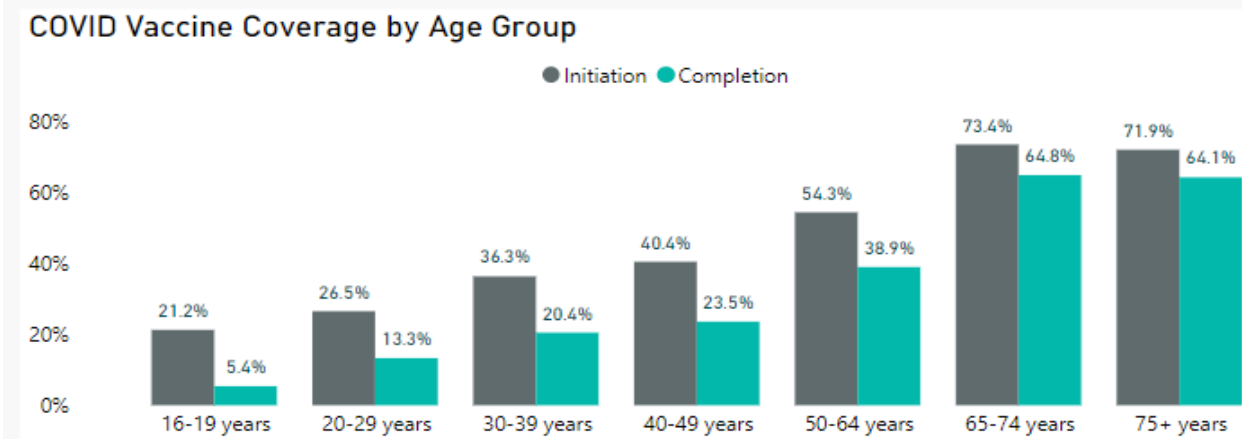
TC Central	Monday, April 26
TC Christian	Wednesday, May 5
GT Academy	Wednesday, May 5
TC High	Friday, May 7

The clinics are available to students 16 years of age and older and additional staff members. No appointments are necessary. Parental or guardian approval is required. Parents should watch for an email message or direct communication from their child's school for specifics regarding each school clinic.

VACCINATION NUMBERS IN GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

Overall Grand Traverse County and the Traverse City region continue to do very well overall with vaccination of everyone eligible (anyone 16+). Our current total cumulative coverage is 58.2% for initial dose and 43.4% for completed doses. Vaccination coverage rates for GT County residents by age group based on the MDHHS COVID 19 Vaccination Coverage Dashboard.

Administration Age Group	Initiation Cumulative Coverage	Residents Vaccinated	Population	Completion Cumulative Coverage	Residents Vaccinated	Population
16-19 years	21.2%	109,853	517739	5.4%	27,813	517560
20-29 years	26.5%	364,985	1379576	13.3%	183,050	1379576
30-39 years	36.3%	439,760	1213131	20.4%	247,762	1213131
40-49 years	40.4%	476,227	1179375	23.5%	277,346	1179375
50-64 years	54.3%	1,108,433	2041683	38.9%	793,917	2041683
65-74 years	73.4%	761,326	1037580	64.8%	671,908	1037580
75+ years	71.9%	523,406	727821	64.1%	466,704	727821



*percentages include all providers, including Munson, local pharmacies and providers

DOSES ADMINISTERED AT GTCHD VACCINE CLINICS AS OF 4/16/21: 38,202 Total

DOSE	WEEK OF 4/19-4/23	CUMULATIVE (through 4/23/21)
Initiated	1219	20,731
Completed	991	17,471

CURRENT NUMBERS AND TRENDS

In Grand Traverse County, cases continue to remain high in the county and region but have dropped in the past 10 days. As of April 23, the 7-day average of new cases was at 32 per day, down from 48 last week. The 7-day average for percent positivity dropped from 14.9% to 13.3% this week. Both metrics are heading in the right direction. To see direct data, [visit our dashboard](#).

Some local trends of note currently are:

- Currently, there are 1268 active COVID-19 cases in the county, the highest ever
- This past week we had 4 deaths- female in 20s, female in 80s, male in 70s, male in 80s bringing the total cumulative deaths for GT County to 80
- The 0-39 age group accounts for 2/3s of all cases; 83% of the cases in the last month have been in those less than 50 years of age; this shift reflects the success of vaccination in the 50+ groups;
- 33% of cases in April are linked to travel or social gatherings

- 92% of the cases were symptomatic; Cases have often reported mild symptoms and continuing to work, socialize or go to school before getting tested.
- Multiple variants have been detected in Grand Traverse County and the Traverse City region at an increasing rate. A new variant, B.1.429 (California) was detected in 4 testing samples in addition to the previous B.1.17 variant of Grand Traverse County residents.
- Due to increasing cases and a growing number of variant cases in Michigan effective April 5th, 2021 a standard 14-day quarantine for all close contacts of COVID-19 cases has been reinstated.
- **If you have cold-like, allergy-like, or sinus-like symptoms, please get tested.**

CASE NUMBERS AND STATISTICS

CASES SINCE 4/16/21	DEATHS SINCE 4/16/21	CUMULATIVE CASES as of 4/16/21	PERCENT POSITIVITY (7-DAY AVERAGE)	CASES PER MILLION (7-DAY AVERAGE)	COUNTY RISK LEVEL
225 ↓	4 ↑	5853	13.3% ↓	305 ↓	E

*arrows reflect an increase or decrease from the previous report

Statistics are available on the [MI Safe Start Map](#) and on the Health Department's [dashboard](#) and [Facebook page](#), which updates new case information daily at 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.

It is now even more important that EVERYONE continue to do what works to slow the spread of the virus by wearing their masks properly, socially distancing, avoiding crowds, washing their hands often, and making a plan to get the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine you can. We all have a personal responsibility to slow the spread of COVID-19 and end this pandemic.

To find the latest statistics regarding COVID-19 vaccinations across the state, you can visit the MDHHS vaccine [dashboard](#).

CONTACT TRACERS RELAUNCH SURVEY TOOL

With the surge of cases over the last seven weeks, the GTCHD has opted to reimplement the PEG (Patient Education Genius) electronic survey tool in order to conduct case investigations with individuals that receive positive COVID-19 test results. The survey had previously been utilized in December of 2020.

Patient Education Genius (PEG), collects information from individuals who test positive for COVID-19 through a digital survey sent via text message or e-mail. The survey only asks for information that is allowable under the Public Health Code and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability (HIPAA) Privacy Act, such as demographics, symptoms, occupation, attendance at public events or gatherings, and people with whom they may have been in close contact. The survey does not gather any private information like social security numbers, personal passwords, or banking details.

Individuals aged 20-65 years will receive an electronic message asking them to fill out this confidential survey. Individuals under age 20 and older than 65 will continue to receive a phone call from the health department to complete case investigations. We will continue to prioritize case investigations and encourage anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 to [self-isolate and notify anyone who may have been in close contact with you](#).

TESTING AT CHERRY CAPITAL AIRPORT

Voluntary, free, rapid (antigen) COVID-19 testing is now available at Cherry Capital Airport for incoming travelers. The testing group will require proof of passenger travel on the day of testing (boarding pass or itinerary schedule). There is an approximate 30-minute timeline from registration to result. The registration

and collection process takes 15 minutes, with results being emailed/texted to patients approximately 15 minutes after sample collection.

Below is their initial schedule, subject to change as flights activities shift heading into summer:

Sunday – 3:00 to 11:00 p.m.

Wednesday – 2:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Friday – 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

GTCHD TESTING AT CHERRYLAND MALL

Rapid antigen testing is available at the Grand Traverse County Health Department's Cherryland Center testing site. Testing is free of charge and will be completed regardless of symptoms. Testing is Mondays and Tuesdays by appointment only. To book an appointment, follow this [link](#).

Due to the high number of cases in the county, **the Grand Traverse County Health Department is asking anyone who is told that they tested positive for COVID-19 to self-isolate at home until the health department is able to reach you. Additionally, any and all household contacts or close contacts should quarantine until the case investigation and contact tracing occurs.**



COVID-19 TESTING IN GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY:

Grand Traverse County testing sites include:

[Munson Healthcare Foster Family Community Health Center](#) (priority 1 & 2 only)

[Northwest Michigan Health Services](#) (testing all by appointment)

[Rite Aid at Chums Corner](#) (testing all by appointment)

[Walgreens at Chums Corner](#) (testing all by appointment)

[GTCHD Testing at Cherryland Mall](#) (testing by appointment on Mondays and Tuesdays)

See [Michigan's COVID-19 test finder](#) for more options

Testing sites have capacity and tests are available. Individuals seeking tests can call:

- Their healthcare provider
- The Munson Healthcare Covid-19 hotline: 231-935-0951
- The Michigan COVID-19 hotline: 888-535-6136

STAY SAFE TO STAY OPEN

Residents, businesses, and visitors are encouraged to **Stay Safe to Stay Open**. This includes the following measures while in public:

- ★ Staying 6 feet apart from others
- ★ Wearing masks while indoors or even outside when you are unable to maintain social distancing
- ★ Limiting large social gatherings - not hosting or attending large gatherings
- ★ Continuing basic prevention measures like frequent hand washing
- ★ Following workplace safety protocols
- ★ Daily monitoring of yourself for symptoms including your temperature (even if you feel fine)
- ★ Staying home if symptomatic - even if it is just very mild symptoms
- ★ If others in your household have tested positive or are symptomatic, stay away and take extra precautions to not become infected.

ABOUT THE JOC

Grand Traverse County's Joint Operations Center has been meeting to coordinate efforts and communication on the COVID-19 pandemic since Friday, March 13, 2020. Members include key community partners from health, government, first responders, education, social service, and business sectors.

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